



# Community Connection

*Village of Canal Winchester, Fall 2010*

## It Takes a City...

Village residents recently approved amendments to Canal Winchester's charter on the November ballot. These charter updates, which were recommended by a Charter Review Commission made up of village residents, are a step in the process of Canal Winchester's likely transition to a city next year.

The majority of updates to the charter were general amendments such as allowing the village's name to be changed to the City of Canal Winchester and removing language describing the 1995 charter.

Changes to the village's staffing structure include removal of the requirement that the positions of Clerk of Council and Finance Director be held by the same person and the residency requirement for some staff positions. Another revision changes the name of the "Department of Public Works" to the "Department of Public Service." This aligns the name with the duties spelled out in the Ohio Revised Code for this position and more clearly dictates who should handle certain responsibilities.

The charter now contains a provision to add a City Administrator in the future, when and if needed. The position would

be recommended and supervised by the Mayor, but would require an ordinance by Council to create the position.

Among the modifications to Council's powers were changing the reading requirements for a resolution from a minimum of three readings to one, allowing Council to set a date beyond 30 days for an ordinance to go into effect, and changing the three-fourths consensus to a two-thirds agreement to pass a zoning ordinance.

Another notable amendment to the charter was in how contracting for design-build projects will be handled. Previously, all individual trades such as plumbing and wood-working were bid out separately. Canal Winchester will now be able to select one general contractor who will be responsible for the various trades.

The 2010 charter amendments will take effect 30 days after the village is declared a city by the Ohio Secretary of State. Anyone who would like to review the entire document of charter updates may pick up a copy of it at the village's municipal office building at 36 S. High St.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Charter Changes .....	1
Mayor's Message .....	2
Water Usage Tips .....	2
Business Location .....	3
Saluting Our Veterans .....	3
Christmas in the Village .....	4
Ribfest and Labor Day .....	4
Breakfast With Santa.....	5
Did You Know? .....	5
Dates to Remember ...	5
Tire Sweep ..	5
Waste Management Contract .....	6
Sanitary Sewer Ordinance.....	6
Leaf and Snow Removal .....	7
Village Contacts .....	8

## Hello... From the Mayor

As 2011 nears, we continue our preparation for our likely transition to a city. One step in the process was to update our municipal charter. The proposed changes appeared on residents' ballots in November and were passed by a large margin. Thanks to everyone who came out and exercised their right to vote.

You may have noticed our new residential refuse agreement with Waste Management. This is the first rate increase we've had in several years and our rates remain very low compared to other communities. The new contract raised our base rate from \$9.87 to \$12 per month. Waste Management has been a strong asset to our community and I'm happy we're able to continue this partnership with them.

When SWACO's rate increase goes into effect on January 1, Waste Management (like all waste haulers) will have the option to tack this increase onto its refuse programs. SWACO's increase is \$0.25 for residential curbside pickup, with a larger increase for commercial refuse.

Congratulations are in order for Diley Ridge Medical Center. The facility earned LEED® Gold certification

from the United States Green Building Council, making it Ohio's first Gold LEED-certified healthcare facility. This center has proved to be a huge asset for Canal Winchester. We should all be proud to have an award-winning facility with so many green elements meeting the healthcare needs of our community.

Another positive development in the community is Manifold & Phalor's relocation to Canal Winchester. The company outgrew its 10,000 square-foot space in Reynoldsburg and recently relocated to a 30,000 square-foot facility in Canal Point industrial park. The company is open and in the process of making its transition to full operations here in our community. Expect news regarding their grand opening this winter.

I am also very proud of the caliber of events we've seen lately in Canal Winchester. We continue to see large increases in attendance at all of our events, and I believe the Blues & Ribfest and Canal Winchester Labor Day Festival are two of the finest festivals in the state of Ohio. I have reason to believe I'm not the only one who feels this way, after hearing similar comments from several people who attended these events. Both Christmas in the Village and

Breakfast With Santa are coming up in December. I hope you have plans to participate in the final two events of the year as well as the full schedule of celebrations on the agenda for next year.

I'm looking forward to another prosperous and joyous year with everyone. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,



Michael Ebert, Mayor



## Energy and Cost Saving Tips for Water Usage

A hot water heater temperature setting of 120 degrees is sufficient for most household needs. Higher temperatures can cause dissolved solids to precipitate into the hot water system, which can shorten the life of the hot water tank and plug fixtures and screens.

Here are some energy and cost saving tips for water usage:

- Add an insulation jacket to your hot water heater.
- Flush your hot water tank to remove sediment.
- Lower the temperature setting on your hot water tank to reduce the formation of precipitates
- Clean faucet aerators and screens
- Check toilets for leaks at flapper valves by using blue food coloring.

Another tip - keeping your hot water heater set to a lower temperature is also something you might want to consider if you have young children. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends setting hot water heaters to no higher than 120 degrees to avoid burns.

## Bringing Businesses in So Residents Can Go Out

The Village of Canal Winchester is a unique and vibrant community that is rapidly expanding. In fact, come next year, it's expected to become the City of Canal Winchester. With our expanding community, when can we expect an expanding retail and dining selection?

This is a fairly common question by those who are interested in getting popular businesses to come into the village such as retail stores, a bigger selection of restaurants, or service businesses at a convenient location in Canal Winchester. We've been working hard with hopes of getting some of those businesses that are in high demand. It's just going to take some time.

Bringing in a new business is something that takes a lot of planning and patience. There are numerous factors retailers must take into consideration when deciding where to build their business.

First, retailers must study the market area to calculate the number of households and jobs within the area where they are looking to build. Generally, this parameter is within a ten minute radius in order to include those who they feel are their target market. This is logical when looking at neighboring cities with malls and a large number of chain restaurants because there are high populations within those cities' limits.

However, potential retailers don't take into account residents and employees coming to the Gender Road area from Canal Pointe, the Village of Groveport and the Rickenbacker Area at lunchtime. So the village has been working hard to get potential retailers to see past their set criteria of traffic and population, and consider the larger southeast region.

Retailers plan where they want to build years in advance. Development

for the next two to three years is already in effect and retailers are now planning for 2013 and beyond. Canal Winchester Development Director, Chris Strayer, approaches potential businesses with a full understanding of how the system works. "We've been working diligently not to get something now but to prepare for later," Strayer explained. "We aren't looking at next year but three years from now asking how we can get on the list and then moved up as a high priority."

Businesses look at location so they can strategically build close to their competition. Gender Road has limited space and doesn't always provide an ideal location for these competitive businesses. Diley Road may eventually provide a prosperous location but it's still too early in the development stages for many retailers to want to commit.

Strayer also shed light on why multiple competitors, such as tire stores, may choose to build in the same area. "We can't legally deny businesses from coming in if they meet our criteria established in the zoning code," Strayer said. "They come because they see an opportunity for profit." Some retailers specifically target Canal Winchester because the demographic fits their business objective.

There are still many other factors to be considered such as land costs, number of restaurants or stores within a region, average income and more. Even once a business decides to locate in Canal Winchester they still have several things to consider like land acquisition and environmental and traffic studies before they can start the building process.

So what can residents do to help the process? Be patient. The businesses in demand will come; it's just a matter of when.

## Saluting Our Veterans

We're paying respect to local service men and women with a veteran display board this month to say thanks. Located on the front windows of 36 S. High St., the display features pictures sent in by area residents of those who have served or are currently serving our country.

The display began in 2009 as a way to honor local veterans and active-duty military personnel in celebration of Veteran's Day. This year 13 new photos were added to the display, which now includes photos and descriptions of 45 veterans and active-duty military personnel in uniform. The village hopes to add more photos to the display each year.

Branches of the armed forces such as the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and National Guard have all been well represented by members who have served anytime between 1943 and today. Photos include veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Operation Uphold Democracy and Operation Iraqi Freedom among others.

The display will be featured at the village's municipal building throughout November. Anyone interested in seeing the display is encouraged to stop by and pay tribute to these veterans in appreciation of their service.





## Christmas in the Village Will Soon Be Here...



*Twas early December and ready for some fun, were Canal Winchester residents and their loved ones.*

*Festivities were planned through the village with care, for Christmas in the Village was finally here.*

Christmas in the Village is a perfect way to kick start the holiday season with family and friends. Such a wide range of activities are offered that you're sure to find something for everyone.

This year the celebration will begin Friday, December 3 at 5:15 p.m. with a parade. The parade will start at the high school, go through downtown and end right in front of Stradley Place, next to the municipal building at 36 S. High St. Following the parade, Santa will begin the tree lighting ceremony at 5:45 p.m. in the grassy area behind Stradley Place. Festivities

will continue from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturday the parade will begin at 4:30 p.m. and be followed by the activities from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This year's festivities are sure to be a big hit with classic activities from last year as well as some new ones! Look for expanded parades with a few more vehicles and lights.

At Stradley Place there will be a popcorn station and ice sculptures. On High Street you'll see hayrides offered in front of the municipal building and carriage rides in front of Huntington Bank, where inside kids will enjoy visits with Santa. Children's train rides will be across from Town Hall where children's crafts will be offered.

Other festivities include: carolers, children's games inside Chase Bank, a craft bazaar and electric trains in the community center, and a gingerbread

house contest in the Winchester Tea Room. Another new feature includes holiday scenes painted on many downtown business windows thanks to art students from Canal Winchester High School.

Anyone interested in learning more about Christmas in the Village or how to enter the fourth annual gingerbread house contest should contact Carrie Hoover at 614-834-9727. If you would like to participate in the craft bazaar please contact the Main Street Canal Winchester organization at 614-270-5053.

Christmas in the Village is a free community event hosted by the Village of Canal Winchester and Main Street Canal Winchester, with support from the Canal Winchester Chamber of Commerce. This event would not be possible without the help and support of volunteers and local businesses.

## Blues & Ribfest and Labor Day Festival Bring Huge Crowds to the Village!





## Have a Holly Jolly Breakfast

Santa Claus is coming to town and he's hungry! On Dec. 11, the village will be hosting its annual breakfast with Santa at the Frances Steube Community Center located at 22 S. Trine St.

Santa has been coming to breakfast in Canal Winchester for many years. But this year, Santa has agreed to stay longer. Santa has lost a few pounds and feels it would be better if there were two breakfast sessions. That way, the event gains more people and Santa gains more pounds! The first session will be from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and the second session will go from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Tickets went on sale November 3 and are available at the village's municipal building and community center between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. For those who can't make it to the village's office during normal business hours, Harvest Moon will have tickets available evenings and weekends.

At just \$5 per person and children under one year being free, this year's breakfast is sure to be a festive one. Guests will fill up on flavorful French toast sticks, savory sausage links, scrumptious

scrambled eggs and a drink! Children will be able to visit with Santa and receive an early gift.

All proceeds from the event benefit Canal Winchester Human Services' Adopt-A-Family program. Thank you to the Canal Winchester Rotary Club, the Canal Winchester High School Leo Club, Harvest Moon and McDonald's for their support of the event. Additional volunteers and donations are still needed to support the event. Please call 614-834-9727 if interested.

Make sure to purchase your ticket soon to join the fun. After all, there's just no place like Canal Winchester for the holidays.



## Another Successful Tire Sweep at Walnut Creek

Canal Winchester held its third annual tire sweep and creek cleanup along Walnut Creek on October 16. The group pulled 122 tires from the area.

Thanks to the fourteen volunteers who helped! The group included volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 103, the Walnut Action Group, the Rotary Club and a few residents.

The tire sweep was held in conjunction with Metro Parks' stream cleanup project along Walnut Creek, where the waterway borders Walnut Woods Metro Park.

Thanks to Metro Parks, Don Hartman Inc. and NTB, which all helped cover the costs for disposing of the tires.

## Did You Know?

It's always best to check with the village before starting improvements to your home to see if permits or inspections are required.

Most car and garage break-ins happen when vehicles are left unlocked and garages are left open. Residents can help prevent theft by keeping their garage doors closed and their vehicles locked.

You can get village news and information through social media. Join the conversation by liking us on Facebook or following us on Twitter.

## Dates to Remember

- Nov. 25-26 Village Offices Closed
- Dec. 3 Last Day for Leaf Pickup
- Dec. 3-4 Christmas in the Village
- Dec. 11 Breakfast With Santa
- Dec. 24 Village Offices Closed
- Dec. 31 Village Offices Closed



## New Residential Refuse Contract With Waste Management

As you're probably aware, Canal Winchester entered into a new residential refuse service contract with Waste Management in September. The new contract lasts through Aug. 31 of 2020, and offers the option to renegotiate the recycling portion of the contract in three years.

With the new agreement, the monthly refuse fee paid by residents to Waste Management has increased from \$9.87 to \$12 per month. The agreement also states that annual rate increases will not exceed 2.5 percent.

The other notable change for residents in the new agreement is how recycling will be handled. Previously, Waste Management picked up recyclables - which didn't need to be separated from general refuse - during scheduled

trash pickup. These recyclables were then sorted from other trash at Waste Management's transfer station.

As of January 1, 2010, SWACO no longer allowed waivers authorizing out-of-district solid waste disposal. Therefore, Waste Management now disposes of local waste in the Franklin County landfill. Because Waste Management isn't using its transfer station in Canal Winchester to transfer our waste to its company-owned landfill, the company is no longer sorting our recyclables at this facility.

Recycling will now be handled through three convenient recycling sites. The first is located at Waste Management's facility at 1006 W. Walnut Street, and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The second is located downtown, next to the Interurban

building and the parking lot area by Stradley Place. This site is accessible off of Columbus Street through Warehouse Alley and off Washington Street from Towing Path Alley. The third location will be announced soon. Both the downtown and third location will be accessible from dawn until dusk.

Residents may drop all recyclables directly into one bin at each site, and don't need to separate by plastics, paper or glass.

For complete details such as holiday schedules and acceptable waste items, residents should visit Waste Management's website at [www.WM.com](http://www.WM.com) or contact the company's customer service line.

## Maintaining Our Sanitary Sewers

Sanitary sewers are lines laid underground dedicated to carrying sewage from homes and businesses. A sanitary sewer backup can be both costly and a threat to public health. Like many communities across the country, Canal Winchester is always looking at ways to prevent these backups and recently passed an updated ordinance to help combat the problem.

Canal Winchester's new sanitary sewer ordinance defines how its system can be used and what can and cannot be flushed into it by both residents and businesses. For example, businesses that are required to install and maintain a grease trap are now being held to stricter standards for having their grease traps serviced. Grease traps are devices that stop waste grease from entering the system. These devices are necessary because grease clogs pipes and causes problems with pumps and controls, resulting in expensive maintenance and repair costs.

Grease is not only a problem in commercial facilities, but also in residential properties. Cooking grease, which adheres to pipes, is the number one cause of sewage backups in residential basements. In addition to grease, there are several other items that can damage the sewer system, including:

- Rags such as diapers, underwear and cleaning cloths
- Q-Tips, cotton balls, hair, bandages and dental floss
- Disposable tissues, including paper towels, facial tissues, baby wipes, "flushable" wipes and disinfecting cleaning wipes
- Feminine hygiene products including tampons, applicators, pads and adhesive backings for pads
- Cleaning solvents and unused medications
- Anything flammable such as paint thinner, nail polish remover and gasoline

Only toilet tissue and human waste should be flushed into the sewer system, while all other items should be thrown in the trash. Residents and businesses who fail to follow the sanitary sewer ordinance may be fined, have water service discontinued to the property or a combination of both.

Over time, issues with flushing inappropriate items into the sanitary sewer system have increased and cost the village thousands of dollars each year to fix. The village's Division of Water Reclamation is asking for everyone's help in preventing damage to the sanitary sewer system. The complete ordinance can be found on the village's website at [www.canalwinchesterohio.gov](http://www.canalwinchesterohio.gov). More details, including fact sheets on the sanitary sewer system and grease traps can be found in the Division of Water Reclamation section of the village's website.

## Rake, Blow, Shovel and Plow!



With fall already here and winter right around the corner, it's time to bring out the rake and shovel! The Village of Canal Winchester is on top of this year's leaf and snow removal and you should be, too. With leaves beginning to pile up and snow storms getting more powerful every year, it is important that we keep these processes moving as smoothly as possible. But we need your help to ensure the best service!

### Leaf Removal

Leaf pickup is a free service for village residents. It began Oct. 4 and will continue through Dec. 3. It is important that residents avoid covering the storm drains along streets with leaves to allow for proper drainage.

Only leaves raked to the curb will be removed. Sticks, grass trimmings and other yard waste will not be collected due to the damage caused by these items to village equipment. Regular yard waste will continue to be picked up by Waste Management during scheduled trash collection times.

### Snow Removal

The Village of Canal Winchester makes every effort to keep our streets clear and passable before, during and after a snow event by

utilizing brine solutions application, salting and plowing. Our policy is to clear streets curb-to-curb to provide easier access for emergency vehicles, while providing the high-quality snow removal service our residents have come to expect. As residents, you too can help your fellow neighbor by doing your part such as:

- Not placing snow cleared from parking lots and driveways onto streets, sidewalks or bike paths
- Piling shoveled snow to the right of the driveway (as you face the street)
- Keeping children away from the snow plows
- Not building igloos, caves or other snow structures close to the street
- Keeping parked cars off the street
- Cleaning around mailboxes
- Clearing public sidewalks as soon as possible (as required of all residents and business owners by village ordinance 905.02 and ORC 723.011)

These procedures may be adjusted as needed. Below is the village's general policy for snow removal and street salting.

#### Plowing

The village streets will be plowed in the following order: arterial streets (including Columbus, Gender, High

and Waterloo), other collector streets and major streets within subdivisions, secondary streets within subdivisions, cul-de-sacs and then alleys. Streets will continue to be plowed until excess snow is removed from parking and driving lanes, freeing storm sewer catch basins so flooding and freezing do not occur. This will also open the area to mailboxes and parking.

#### Salting

Streets will be salted in the same order as plowing. Re-salting will be done as needed.

#### Downtown Business District

Removal of plowed snow in the downtown area occurs when snowfall exceeds eight inches and only after all other removal activities are complete. Removal will only take place during normal working hours.

It is very important that storm drains are kept clear during plowing. Any storm drain that is closed as well as wheelchair ramps will be cleared following the storm. On the off chance that Canal Winchester's snow removal damages a mailbox; the village will contact the resident about repair.

As a reminder, it is required by law that both residents and business owners clear the public sidewalks in front of their property. Whether it's done by you or your contracted snow removal service, it is your responsibility to keep snow cleared off of the street and bike path.

With your help, leaf and snow removal can run smoothly. If you have any questions about the removal policy, please call 614-834-5100.





**Village of Canal Winchester**  
36 S. High Street  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110  
614-837-7493  
[www.canalwinchesterohio.gov](http://www.canalwinchesterohio.gov)

**PRESORT STANDARD MAIL**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**CANAL WINCHESTER, OH**  
**PERMIT NO. 81**

Michael Ebert .....Mayor

John Bender, Rick Deeds, Steve  
Donahue (Vice President), Bobbie  
Mershon, Marilyn Rush-Ekelberry  
(President), Leah Turner and James  
Wynkoop.....Council

## Guide to Village Employees

[www.canalwinchesterohio.gov](http://www.canalwinchesterohio.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/CanalWinchester](https://www.facebook.com/CanalWinchester)  
[www.twitter.com/canalwinchester](https://www.twitter.com/canalwinchester)

Village Administration  
36 S. High Street

Community Center  
22 S. Trine Street

Accounting Clerk .....614-834-5106  
Building Dept. Administrative Assistant .....614-837-7501  
Building Official .....614-834-5102  
Clerk of Court .....614-837-7691  
Community Affairs Director .....614-834-9727  
Development Director .....614-837-1894  
Finance Director .....614-837-6937  
Mayor .....614-837-7493  
Receptionist .....614-837-7493  
Utility Clerk .....614-837-7716  
Zoning Officer .....614-834-5101

Community Center ..... 614-837-8276

Construction Services  
400 Ashbrook Road

Construction Services ..... 614-834-5100, ext. 101

Department of Public Works  
400 Ashbrook Road

Director of Public Works .....614-834-5100, ext. 109  
Division of Streets .....614-834-5100, ext. 105  
Division of Urban Forestry .....614-834-5100, ext. 110  
Division of Water Reclamation .....614-834-5100, ext. 103  
Division of Water Treatment .....614-837-5623